

# The Times-Dispatch

Richmond Office: 101 E. Main Street  
 South Richmond: 1020 Hall Street  
 Petersburg Bureau: 100 N. Sycamore Street  
 Lynchburg Bureau: 115 Eighth Street

BY MAIL  
 POSTAGE PAID  
 Year, \$1.00; Six Mo., \$0.50  
 Daily with Sunday, \$0.05; 10c  
 Daily without Sunday, \$0.04; 10c  
 Sunday edition only, \$0.05; 10c  
 Weekly (Wednesday), \$0.05; 10c

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in Richmond (and suburbs) and Petersburg—  
 Daily with Sunday, 15 cents  
 Daily without Sunday, 10 cents  
 Sunday only, 5 cents

Entered January 27, 1905, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1912.

## GETTING LITERATURE TO THE PEOPLE.

The Richmond Story-Tellers' League is opening its second year with admirable plans for encouraging a love of good literature by giving to the people the world's classic stories in the pleasant form of story-telling. Once a month the members and their friends gather to listen to trained story-tellers reproduce by word of mouth the best of history, legend, myth and fiction. As all literature began in the simplest form of story-telling, so this is the most impressive and effective way of breathing new life and feeling into the old tales. To hear a tale is better than to read one, for it adds to the charm of theme and style the interpreting personality and dramatic inspiration of a human spirit. To listen to splendid literature is like throwing around it the glamour of childhood when the fairy-tale or folk legend repeated by loving lips brought a thrill and reality to the narration never found in cold print.

The work in Richmond has just begun, but it should receive the hearty support and sympathy of those who desire to spread culture and lend of their own gifts to make life fuller and more beautiful for their neighbors. To help the league extend its usefulness costs but the smallest fee, and in return the member gets the joy of hearing stories made vivid and memorable, and the use of a library, where are gathered and made accessible the immortal sources of the great stories. Best of all is the opportunity to join with people of all classes and all occupations in a true democracy of common love for fine books and noble literature.

The league is planning to extend its work by co-operating with the social settlement work and educational institutions in bringing into the life of people who have little of beauty or joy, their heritage of imagination and wisdom. No aim could be worthier than that of inspiring and teaching the children and those older children we call men and women through the easy and heart-touching means of telling them stories. It is a way of making literature mean something to them, and as they learn to love stories, so will they seek the books where the stories are born. Once the need for books is felt, the public library will come as a demand from the working-man and his family, to whom it can render priceless service. The Times-Dispatch urges lovers of books and lovers of people to join this movement, and to work for spreading sweetness and light among the weary who drift in spiritual gloom.

## THE ABSURDITY OF WAR.

The mingling of Balkans may lead to a general European war, but aside from the tangled web of selfishness, exploitation, desire for markets and purely commercial interests in which the great powers may be caught, there is little in the temper of the modern man that makes him eager to get shot, or indeed to shoot some one else. He is not only getting civilized, but he is also getting wise. The price of war is always paid by the common people. They are the ones who build the ships, raise the supplies, do the work of preparing and supporting an army, and, finally, they furnish the bulk of the human food for powder. The workingman has been educated until he has learned he may cut off his nose to spite his face. He may fight for his share of the world market, and then unfortunately not be alive to get it. Only the real necessity of defending his own health and home, and of preserving the integrity of the nation, now presents itself as an adequate cause for war. International peace agitation is not doing half so much to abolish war as is international common sense.

Some of the absurdities of war are ample proof that it is really an anachronism in modern civilization. The wisest and most generous men rather in health congresses from all over the world to join in the common fight against disease, yet here comes a report, we trust false, that the Turks are sending doctors to the front, not to care for the wounded, but to put death-dealing germs into the water and food of the enemy. Is it likely that the men who give their lives to science to eliminate disease will sit silent while their nations struggle madly to counteract the good they have accomplished through weary years of effort?

The conventions according to which nations formally kill each other's people are full of grim humor. You must not use a poisoned bullet or a soft-nosed one. Why use any? If there is humanity and sense among nations to prohibit these slaughtering devices, is there not enough humanity and wisdom to find a just rule for settling disputes without any slaughter? It seems impossible that European politicians can think of the horrors

of a general combat. The price would be above any imaginable profit. If the wisdom of statesmen cannot avoid it, the protests of science and humanitarianism; the refusal of the working-man to kill his fellow-laborers, and the instinct of all women against the useless sacrifice of life that they have paid so dearly to create, should be strong enough to preserve peace.

## SLEEP AND THE HIGH COST OF LIVING.

If the people of the Ninth District desire to send to Congress a representative who will do nothing to lower the high cost of living, they should send C. Bascom Slomp. If they wish to send a representative who will assist in adding to the burden of the people instead of taking from it, they should send C. Bascom Slomp.

Representative Slomp voted against the bill to abolish the tariff on sugar. It is conservatively estimated that the bill, if passed, would have saved the people of the country \$100,000,000 yearly.

Representative Slomp did not vote for the bill to reduce the tariff on metals and manufactures of metals. It is conservatively estimated that the bill, if passed, would have saved the people \$30,000,000 yearly.

Representative Slomp did not vote for the bill to reduce the tariff on wool and manufactures of wool. It is conservatively estimated that this bill, if passed, would have saved the people of the country \$50,000,000 yearly.

Representative Slomp voted for the Iniquitous Sheppard pension bill, which, if passed, would have added \$75,000,000 yearly to the tax burden borne by the people.

In other words, Representative Slomp was against bills which, if passed, would have lifted a yearly load of \$230,000,000 from the bent backs of the overburdened people of the nation, but he voted for \$75,000,000 to the outrageously heavy burden of the people. Representative Slomp voted against reducing the high cost of living and voted for increasing the high cost of living.

If the people of the Ninth District favor increasing the high cost of living, they should elect C. Bascom Slomp; if they favor reducing the high cost of living, they should elect Rufus A. Ayers. The Republican party is the party of extravagance and extortion; the Democratic party is the party of economy.

## A NATIONAL HALL OF ARCHIVES.

President Taft, speaking to officials and eminent guests of the American Antiquarian Society of Worcester, after having seen how well that ancient organization has conserved the Americana—particularly early newspapers—entrusted to it, reiterated his advocacy of generous congressional aid for the proposed national hall of archives. Such a structure, absolutely fireproof, is essential to the preservation of the priceless collection of original documents from which the history of the nation has been written and is to be written. Conditions are such now, as a distinguished group of petitioners for action has shown, that the nation is wantonly impeding documentary wealth of inestimable value by its permitting accumulated records to be housed in nonfireproof structures. Such action ought to be taken as a safeguard so that the nation may never experience the same sort of irreparable loss as that of New York when the treasures of the State Library were consumed utterly by fire.

At its next session Congress will be asked to establish a national hall of archives, where national records will be safe forever. Every Representative and Senator from Virginia should support the measure. And, in the meantime, public opinion should be so aroused here at home that the next General Assembly will not turn its back upon its duty and refuse to provide fireproof receptacles for the incalculably valuable historical records of the Old Dominion—records that are to-day exposed to the menace of destruction. No other State in the Union possesses such historical records as ours, and yet they are unprotected from fire, because the General Assembly of 1912, without excuse, refused a small appropriation for the purpose of providing fireproof cases. The General Assembly of 1914 should not perpetuate such gross negligence, and it is unbelievable that it will.

## THE VALUE OF THE VOTE.

The value of voting in the United States is regarded differently by the various foreign-born classes. It requires a long interval for many of them to become naturalized.

Statistics compiled by the Federal government show that on April 10, 1910, there were 6,446,317 foreign males of voting age, and 2,624,117, or 40.5 per cent, were naturalized. Native Germans have the highest percentage of naturalized members, 63.5 per cent. The other high percentages are: natives of Ireland, 61.8; Canada, 61; England, 59.4; Sweden, 62.8. The low percentages are: Russia, 24.1; Austria, 24.6; and Italy, 17.7. The lowest per cent of naturalized natives are from Hungary, with 14.5 per cent.

It is remarkable that the Russians take so little interest in government, coming as they do from a country where liberty and citizenship are but names, and where the individual is under the heavy hand of oppression.

## WHY HAVE A HOME?

The latest advance in automobile building will solve the question of mortgaging the old home place for the sake of owning a car. With one of the new cars, you simply do not need a home. The car is it. In addition it will be much like a private yacht and a

perpetual railroad journey. The masterpiece of Yankee ingenuity that offers these inducements is a twenty-five-passenger "Pullman," built for a Montreal man. How it combines pleasure and profit is plain from the following:

"The body is 25 feet 3 inches over all, 4 feet 6 inches wide, 8 feet 6 inches outside height, 6 feet 6 inches inside height. The compartments consist of a stateroom for the driver in front, a ladies' stateroom with sleeping room for five, a men's stateroom with quarters for four, a dining room, with two extension tables and a folding desk. In the rear is a kitchenette, compact and complete from stove to refrigerator. There is a telephone system with four instruments, placing every compartment in touch with the driver."

The sole objection is that a house liable to skid into a ditch is a dubious possession. We suggest the addition of an accident ward, and that one of the telephones communicate with a skilled surgeon.

## A SMASHING ANSWER.

Albert Jeremiah Beveridge, former Senator from Indiana, claims that Mr. Roosevelt wanted him to ask Governor Wilson a certain vital question. It was to this effect: Since many of the trusts are organized under the laws of New Jersey, "why has not Mr. Wilson as Governor recommended amendments" that would curtail the power of such corporations?

Governor Wilson's reply is: (1) In his inaugural and on three other occasions in messages to the Legislature he did recommend such amendments, and (2) at the 1911 session of the Legislature the Republicans controlled the Senate, and were so busy defeating Governor Wilson's progressive measures that it had no time to meet his repeated demands that the corporation laws be reformed in the interest of the people.

That is a reply at once dignified and effective that knocks the question into a cocked hat.

## THE KITCHENETTE MAN.

A popular New York cooking school is now imparting instruction to a small class of mere males, who are anxious to obtain a working knowledge of the manipulation of the kitchenette, its problems and its possibilities. The matter is momentous. Why is man mindful of the kitchenette? They have naught in common; their association is veiled in mystery. Not that the kitchen is profaned by man's entrance; there are times when, as a culinary aide, he may be of emergency service there. He sometimes may properly investigate the refrigerator, but he has nothing to do with the kitchenette.

Can it be that anything connected with the woman's movement is responsible for this kitchenette activity of man? Who knows? Is a complete exchange of spheres impending between the male and the female of the species? Have the men become convinced that the kitchenette is something that they must come to sooner or later? Are they preparing for the future?

Here is a temperate estimate of the Springfield Republican:

The late Senator Heyburn was probably the very last of the public men in the United States Congress who specialized in the old Civil War passions. He could always be depended upon to denounce rebellion. He was the soul of congressional opposition to a statue of General Lee in Statuary Hall. He never ceased to fear that the government might be tempted to pay the Confederate debt. Senator Heyburn always seemed sincere in this feeling; he did not need to be so bitter for the sake of making votes. He was simply a survivor of a type that once was very numerous in Congress, and which the passing years have cast into the background. This is a year when an Alabama man was seriously considered for the presidency and received a respectable amount of support from Northern delegates in the Democratic National Convention.

This is also a year when a Virginian is to be elected to the presidency, with the powerful aid of Northern States.

It is not without a touch of irony that after all the health conventions and tuberculosis campaigns, the Turks are reported to be employing doctors to scatter germs of typhus and cholera among the Balkan warriors. Is this civilization or what?

Isn't it strange how masters of finance will trust \$100,000 or more loose in the world with no receipt save a couple of initials on a campaign fund list?

One difference between baseball and football is that in the championship baseball games nobody gets killed.

Dame Nature follows the styles. Just now she is putting on reds and browns and yellows, the same as everybody else.

Colonel Roosevelt speaks of his physicians as "we." Soon some irreverent scribe will be calling him "doctor."

Richmond College broke its hoodoo by scoring in football Saturday for the first time in two seasons. May this be a happy augury of the winning of a game in the sweet bye and bye!

Noticing our prediction that Vice-President Marshall will have his summer home in Richmond, the Columbia State adds: "But Columbia will have the President." Not a bit of it. He will establish the summer White House on the beloved shores of his native Pamunkey, and not on the mosquito-mobilizing flats of the malarial Congaree.

From barber's chair to a college professorship is the unusual record of S. A. Poetz, of Greenville, S. C. He has employed his leisure in the study of Latin, and now the head of the department of Latin in a California college has called upon him to assist him in teaching.

## On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

### The Winner.

He met up with a pretty gal, whose fortune was her face, and he was quite enamored of her pliant charm of grace. He liked to loll back within the sunshine of her smile. Her dimples and her winsome ways held him for quite a while. But quite an unexpected thing transpired one fateful day. He sized her up quite carefully, then went upon his way.

He met up with a learned gal who wasn't long on looks. But who knew all the authors well and could name all their books. She had old Socrates by heart, philosophy and all. And gave her hero mental food whenever he chanced to call. But something happened once again, just why no one can say. He sized her up quite carefully, then went upon his way.

He met up with a witty gal, whose small talk was immense. He listened to her sallies with an interest intense. She was too quick at making puns. She entertained him right. Until he went clean daffy and he called there every night. But somehow he soon tired of her brand of repartee. He sized her up quite carefully, then went upon his way.

He met up with another gal, who wasn't long on looks. Who knew no brilliant repartee, nor cared a snap for books. He didn't know just why he stuck around so faithfully. Until one night she made some dandy gems for tea. Folks thought 'twould be the same old tale, but it was not. No, sir. He sized her up quite carefully, and then he married her.

### According to Uncle Abner.

One of the good jobs on a sweltering day is to sit for ten or twelve hours behind a plate glass show window demonstrating a safety razor sharpener.

Anse Judson doesn't know whether he is going to have a blond or a brunette stenographer. His wife hasn't made up her mind yet. Anse has had eighteen stenographers in the last three months.

Hank Tumms says he is a man of regular habits. He gets soused every week.

No lady's education kin be said to be complete until she kin play "My Rosary" on the pianer.

You can't crab a feller much worse than to say, "He's a fine feller, but it's too bad he drinks."

There ain't no fool like an old fool, unless it is a young one or middle-aged one.

Elmer Jones says he would just as soon pack his shoes in a milliner's trunk any day, but it is doubtful if there would be room.

When a feller has been married six or eight times and has to make a living for a raft of kids, he sort of loses his interest in the "Fashion Notes for Men."

By wearin' a long flowin' beard, Uncle Ezra Harkins figures that he has saved \$50 that he would otherwise have been obliged to spend for neckties during the last forty years.

The humorist of the smoking car is, nine times out of ten, a grizzly bear around home.

Elmer Jones expects to do the county fairs with a wheel of fortune this fall. Last year he cleaned up \$14 in three weeks and was arrested only five times.

### Other Hints to Barbers.

We wrote with a great deal of satisfaction that there is a movement on foot in this country to pass laws preventing tonorial artists, also the common or garden variety of barbers, from eating onions. This is a long step in the right direction. Here are a few more rules which should be adopted.

One—No barber shall take a chew of snicoot or plug during the course of a shave without offering the customer one.

Two—No barber shall turn around and talk to a friend who is waiting and in the meantime slice off the nose, ear or chin of the shavee or any other feature of any importance.

Three—No barber shall spring any anecdote and honorable gas such as "Did you ever hear a keyring?" while shaving a customer, as the latter's uproarious laughter is liable to bring him in violent contact with the razor and he may feel all cut up about it.

Four—The customer's mouth must not be used as a temporary receptacle for lather to be scooped out a little at a time as the barber needs it.

Five—Barbers shall not get the Police Gazette all mused up and torn before the customers have a chance to read the pictures. This rule shall be imperative.

Six—No barber shall tell a customer the same story that the customer told him a week before. Grip fight, race track and baseball gossip shall be strictly tabooed.

Seven—No barber shall turn a man's head while shaving, by grasping him by the nose and shutting off his supply of ozone for more than ten minutes at a time.

## Abe Martin



## JUST BEFORE HALLOWEEN.

By John T. McCutcheon.

(Copyright, 1912, by John T. McCutcheon.)



X-ray of the little angel's thoughts.

## Voice of the People

Hides.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—We have thought that it would be interesting not only to you but to some of your readers if you would print the enclosed information on the subject of hides, showing the relative prices of the various grades for the years 1903 to 1912, inclusive.

Some of it is very interesting, as it shows an advance of almost 100 per cent in some cases, and none of it less than 50 per cent. This information comes from one of the largest tanners in the United States.

WATKINS-COTTRELL CO.,

CHAS. H. WATKINS,

Richmond, Va., October 16, 1912.

The following is a statement of the comparative prices of Chicago packer hides for ten years:

1903—Spray steer, 14½¢; heavy native steer, 12¢; heavy Texas steer, 11½¢; light Texas steer, 10½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 9½¢; but brands, 14¢.  
 1904—Spray steer, 15¢; heavy native steer, 12½¢; heavy Texas steer, 12½¢; light Texas steer, 11½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 10½¢; but brands, 14¢.  
 1905—Spray steer, 16¢; heavy native steer, 13½¢; heavy Texas steer, 13½¢; light Texas steer, 12½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 11½¢; but brands, 14¢.  
 1906—Spray steer, 17¢; heavy native steer, 14½¢; heavy Texas steer, 14½¢; light Texas steer, 13½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 12½¢; but brands, 14¢.  
 1907—Spray steer, 18¢; heavy native steer, 15½¢; heavy Texas steer, 15½¢; light Texas steer, 14½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 13½¢; but brands, 14¢.  
 1908—Spray steer, 19¢; heavy native steer, 16½¢; heavy Texas steer, 16½¢; light Texas steer, 15½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 14½¢; but brands, 14¢.  
 1909—Spray steer, 20¢; heavy native steer, 17½¢; heavy Texas steer, 17½¢; light Texas steer, 16½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 15½¢; but brands, 14¢.  
 1910—Spray steer, 21¢; heavy native steer, 18½¢; heavy Texas steer, 18½¢; light Texas steer, 17½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 16½¢; but brands, 14¢.  
 1911—Spray steer, 22¢; heavy native steer, 19½¢; heavy Texas steer, 19½¢; light Texas steer, 18½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 17½¢; but brands, 14¢.  
 1912—Spray steer, 23¢; heavy native steer, 20½¢; heavy Texas steer, 20½¢; light Texas steer, 19½¢; ex-light Texas steer, 18½¢; but brands, 14¢.

### Takes Another View.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—Your editorial of Sunday, October 13, leaves a false impression on the minds of voters. You state that if the amendments are carried it will give a lifetime job to the treasurers and commissioners of revenue now in office.

The facts as I see them are that if the amendments are carried it will give the right to any citizen of the State to run for the above named offices, whereas if the amendments are not carried the right of several hundred to run for office will be taken away from them. I do not believe that the voters will agree to take away the right of any citizen of this Commonwealth to run for office.

D. L. TAYLOR.

### Abuse

Standing before a committee of the United States Senate yesterday, McMillin McCormick, a rich young man who has helped to finance and manage the Roosevelt campaign, charged that the murderous assault on Mr. Roosevelt was incited by the "falsehoods of character-assassins and liars like Charles D. Miller," who was formerly secretary to President Taft, and is now chairman of the Republican National Committee.

The rankings of a half-baked young

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## QUERIES & ANSWERS

LL. D.

In the Query Column a few days ago I noticed that you stated that "LL. D." does not mean "learned doctor of laws." I have often heard it so used. If it does not mean this, why are there two "L's"?

The two L's stand for the plural of the word indicated by one L. Figures form the plural by adding the apostrophe and "s" as four L's, nine L's, etc. The plural of letters may be written similarly as you have written "two L's," but in abbreviations of titles, etc., the plural is made by placing the letter. Hence LL. D. stands for doctor of laws, and there is no "L" left to stand for "learned," even if the words intended were English.

### Bakers' Journal.

Please give the address of some journal devoted to the bakery and confectionery trade. C. M. S. Gazette, New York City, is credited with the largest circulation of any journal of this sort. It is a monthly, as are all the others.

### The Philippines.

Please tell me whether the United States acquired the Philippines by purchase. By the Treaty of Paris, December 10, 1898, Spain ceded the Philippines group, the United States agreeing to pay \$20,000,000 and to give Spanish ships and merchandise the same rights in the ports for ten years as American.

### Domestic Science.

Can you name for me some school other than \_\_\_\_\_ where I may get a course in domestic science? The Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C., will have you informed. Write to him.

### Reaching Mr. Roosevelt.

Did the horse enter in America before the European discovery? So far as we know, all writers on the subject agree that it did not.

### The Horse in America.

Will you inform me how "pure" the gold and the silver coins of the United States are? T. R. HOPE, States are?

The silver coins contain one-tenth of copper and the gold coins contain one-twentieth of copper and one-twentieth of silver.

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